



# MEDIA ADVISORY

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 5, 2005

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## DAVIDSON AND SHELBY COUNTY DHS OFFICES OFFER IMMEDIATE FOOD STAMP ASSISTANCE TO HURRICANE KATRINA REFUGEES

**WHAT:** Due to the large number of Hurricane Katrina refugees in the Shelby and Davidson County areas, the Tennessee Department of Human Services is offering immediate Food Stamp assistance to those individuals and families impacted by the tragedy.

DHS staff will be taking applications from Hurricane Katrina victims for the Food Stamp program through a federally approved expedited process, and it will also be offering some immediate Food Stamp assistance for those families in Memphis and Nashville.

**WHEN:** Beginning Tuesday, September 6  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Davidson County DHS Office / 1000 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, Nashville  
Shelby County DHS Office / 3360 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Memphis  
*\*\*\*\*DHS Jackson Avenue office in Memphis is NOT operating the expedited Food Stamp program\*\*\*\**

**MORE:** DHS staff in Memphis served several hundred families during a special holiday weekend opening of the county office on South Third Street.  
The expedited Food Stamp program entails potential recipients filling out short applications and undergoing a brief interview with DHS staff to verify eligibility. Applicants should receive their Food Stamp cards within a few days of applying.  
The State of Tennessee is carefully coordinating its response to the fallout from hurricane Katrina. Governor Bredesen has asked all departments and agencies in state government to work closely together to provide help and services to evacuees who are coming to Tennessee. Regular briefings on Tennessee's response to hurricane Katrina are available through the Governor's office at 615.741.3763.

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